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priority of U.S. provisional application 60/132,120, filed April 30, 1999, and French application 99/04443, filed April 9, 1999. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

BWS/102

Please amend claims 10, ~~12, 13~~, and 21 as follows:

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10. (Amended Once) A composition comprising adenoviral particles, a buffer solution that maintains the pH of said composition between 8.0 and 9.6, and glycerol, wherein said buffer solution does not contain added divalent metal cations or alkali metal cations.

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21. (Amended Once) A method of preserving adenoviruses in a composition comprising:

preparing a purified sample of adenoviral particles; and
combining said purified sample of adenoviral particles with glycerol and a buffer solution that maintains the pH of the resulting composition between 8.0 and 9.6, wherein said buffer solution does not contain added divalent metal cations or alkali metal cations.

Please add claims 24-26:

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- - 24. (New) A composition comprising adenoviral particles, a buffer solution and glycerol, wherein the buffer solution does not contain added divalent metal cations or alkali metal cations, and wherein the buffer solution is at a pH sufficient to preserve adenovirus in stable form.

25. (New) A method of preserving adenoviruses in a composition at a temperature of up to about 20°C, comprising:

preparing a purified sample of adenoviral particles;

combining the purified sample of adenoviral particles with glycerol and a buffer solution wherein the buffer solution does not contain added divalent metal cations or alkali metal cations; and

storing the adenovirus composition at a temperature of up to about 20°C.

26. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the adenovirus composition is stored at a temperature of about 4°C. --

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the attached Appendix shows the changes that have been made by this amendment.

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application and Claims

Claims 10-23 are pending; however, claims 19 and 20 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Claims 10-18 and 21-23 have been rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants have amended claims 10, 12, 13, and 21 solely to more particularly describe the subject matter claimed therein. Applicants do not believe that the amendments narrow the scope of the subject matter claimed therein. Support for the claim amendments is found in the specification and in all priority documents, such as at page 3, line 24, to page 5, line 3, and in Example 7 on pages 26-27. No new matter has been added with these claim amendments.